



U.S. Customs and Border Protection

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Community Informational

TUCSON SECTOR BORDER PATROL -- In an effort to improve our communications within the community, we are sending you this Community Informational to inform you of significant actions taken by Border Patrol Agents in the Tucson Sector Area of Responsibility. We are excited to provide you this insight into issues that may appear in the media. We would appreciate your feedback and constructive criticism on how we can better keep you informed. If you would like to see something added, let us know. If you prefer not to receive this information, or know of someone who would like to receive it, please email us at tcafieldcommunicationsbranch@cbp.dhs.gov. Finally, feel free to forward this to others who may benefit from this information. The following is a rundown of activities that occurred over the past week within the Tucson Sector.

Significant Arrests

(CASA GRANDE) Casa Grande Station agents identified an illegal alien on Thursday who has multiple convictions for Sexual Conduct with a Minor, Molestation of a Minor and Felony Aggravated Assault. The criminal history was discovered using the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS). The subject is being held for prosecution.

(WILLCOX) Willcox Station agents working at the Highway 80 Checkpoint apprehended an illegal alien Thursday who admitted to being a Sureño 13 gang member. The subject is being held for prosecution.

Criminal aliens, such as sex offenders and gang members, are some of the people attempting to enter the United States illegally. IAFIS assists agents in rapidly identifying these individuals so they can be brought to the appropriate law-enforcement resolution. The Border Patrol is committed to working with local, state, federal and tribal law enforcement agencies to prevent these individuals from entering our communities.

Seizures

(NOGALES) Nogales Station agents, using surveillance equipment at the Interstate 19 Checkpoint, observed a suspicious vehicle driving off- road on Tuesday. Agents responded and intercepted the vehicle, which was abandoned, and discovered 20 bundles of marijuana weighing more than 490 pounds. A thorough search of the area was conducted for the smugglers to no avail. The vehicle and marijuana, with an estimated value of more than \$393,000, were taken to the Nogales Station for processing.



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(CASA GRANDE) Agents assigned to the Casa Grande Station responded to detection technology deployed in the West Desert and discovered two abandoned vehicles on Tuesday. Agents discovered 26 bundles of marijuana, weighing more than 500 pounds with an estimated value of more than \$399,000 inside the vehicles. The vehicles, which were reported stolen, and marijuana were transported to the Casa Grande Station for processing.

(AJO) Tucson Sector Border Patrol agents assigned to the Ajo Station seized more than 1,625 pounds of marijuana, valued at more than \$1.3 million, in two separate incidents over the weekend.

Agents working in the West Desert observed a suspicious vehicle driving off-road. A canine team inspected the vehicle, which had been abandoned, and discovered 15 bundles of marijuana, weighing more than 730 pounds. A thorough search of the area was conducted for the smugglers to no avail. The vehicle and marijuana, with a value of more than \$584,000, were seized and taken to the Ajo Station for processing.

In a second incident, agents assigned to the Ajo Station were patrolling in the West Desert and observed a suspicious vehicle driving off-road. Agents inspected the vehicle, which had been abandoned, and discovered 39 bundles of marijuana, weighing more than 895 pounds and a value of more than \$716,000. The vehicle and marijuana were transported to the Ajo Station for processing.

(NOGALES) A canine team working at the Interstate 19 Checkpoint on Friday alerted to a vehicle at primary inspection. Further investigations in secondary inspection led to the discovery of more than 155 pounds of marijuana, with a value of more than \$120,000, in a concealed compartment. The subject, marijuana and vehicle were transported to the Nogales Station for processing.

(AJO) U.S. Border Patrol agents from the Tucson Sector seized more than 1,575 pounds of marijuana on Thursday valued at approximately \$1.2 million.

Ajo station agents, working with a remote video surveillance system (RVSS) near Lukeville, Arizona, detected a vehicle driving off-road. Agents responded to the location and discovered an abandoned vehicle that was loaded with 74 bundles of marijuana. A thorough search of the area was conducted for the smugglers to no avail. The vehicle and marijuana were seized and taken to the Ajo station for processing.

Due to collaborative efforts between state agencies such as DPS and Border Patrol, it is increasingly difficult for smugglers to transport contraband. From Oct. 1, 2009, to Aug. 31, 2010, the Tucson Sector Border Patrol seized more than 943,000 pounds of marijuana exceeding \$754 million in value.



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Initiatives:

Tucson Sector to Launch Information Wanted Campaign *“Se Busca Informacion”*

TUCSON, Ariz. – In a continued effort to deny, degrade, disrupt, and dismantle smuggling organizations across the southwest border, the Tucson Sector Border Patrol will incorporate the “Se Busca Informacion” (Information Wanted) campaign into its border security operations.

The “Se Busca Informacion” (Information Wanted) campaign, which was initiated in the San Diego Sector with positive results, will assist in providing leads and intelligence to aid in the apprehension of these individuals while enhancing community outreach. To implement this campaign, the Tucson Sector Border Patrol will begin to distribute flyers and create poster-sized billboards to be distributed and displayed at the ports of entry and checkpoints. These billboards and flyers will depict photos of individuals of interest whom the Tucson Sector is seeking as part of the strategy to increase operational control of the Border. As information is received and resolved, the billboards will be updated.

“We are seeking the public’s help to identify persons of interest so the Border Patrol can find, arrest and prosecute,” stated Chief Patrol Agent Victor M. Manjarrez, Jr. “To the smugglers the message is that you will no longer be able to remain anonymous. Se Busca Informacion allows the community as a whole to work together to bring smugglers to justice.”

Anyone with information is asked to call 1-877-872-7435 and provide information on any individual on the poster. All calls will remain anonymous.

~CBP~

*To report illegal activity anytime and remain anonymous, call **1-877-USBP-HELP**. U.S. Customs and Border Protection is the unified agency within the Department of Homeland Security charged with managing and protecting our nation’s borders at and between official ports of entry. CBP is charged with keeping terrorists and terrorist weapons out of the country while also enforcing hundreds of U.S. laws.*